

The ARRL proposal offers a reasonable approach to restructuring the Amateur Radio License classes, while retaining a portion of each band for CW operators who wish to use this mode. CW is certainly a viable mode of communication, but merely knowing Morse Code does nothing to demonstrate or improve an operators knowledge of good operating practices or theory, nor does it do anything to advance the purposes for having Amateur Radio. Testing should reflect knowledge required to insure proper operating practices, theory and safety, not the ability to memorize either Morse Code or answer pools. Consideration should be given to removing the question pools from the public domain (should not be published or distributed). This would require every applicant to actually know the subject matter of the tests.

Ralph Johnson
KG4GGC